

## **Customs/Trade/Finance Symposium**

The Symposium of the Americas Customs/Trade/Finance, created as part of the 1994 Summit of the Americas, has pioneered the very successful concept of hosting the Customs Directors General from the Western Hemisphere at an annual (now biannual) meeting in Miami with the trade and transportation community. This event is a unique forum for customs officials and business leaders to exchange views and develop strategies for engineering an environment to foster successful procedures to collect revenue, to enforce trade, health and safety laws, and to assure the security of cargo, airports and seaports --- while facilitating the growth of international trade in the countries of this Hemisphere. This year's program will highlight:

- security challenges,
- new and proposed customs and other Border Procedures under FTAA and other regional and bilateral agreements, and
- modernization and availability of financing for new technologies and initiatives.

The 2005 Symposium will provide an opportunity for the trade community to provide timely advice to the Directors General as they prepare for their annual private meetings scheduled for May, 2005 in Brazil.

The Symposium will also feature an Exhibition Hall with over 30 booths showcasing products and technologies that facilitate the exchange of goods and services. The Exhibition has always featured the latest security equipment, information technology, transportation services, trade facilitation instruments, and customs-related products and technologies.

The Symposium of the Americas is the only international trade conference dedicated to pursuing the issues critical to trade integration and border enforcement efficiencies in the Americas. Over 500 executives and officials from 43 countries attended the 2002 event.

For further information contact: Ninth Symposium of the Americas  
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